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BROSS, Alarich aka BROMS, Alarich
DPOB: 25 March 1904 in Bromberg, Poland
RNMOOSEY, KM 64

Bross served in the Polish Army from 1926 to 1930 then joined the German SS in 1939, after his home city of Danzig was germanicized. He served in the security police in Finland, advancing to chief of that service in Helsinki in 1944. Throughout his career with the SS, he was given high marks for intelligence and integrity. In Finland, he worked under the cover of a travel agency, with a political reporting mission. At the start of 1945, he was in Berlin/Heringsdorf engaged in supervising the training of a detachment of W/T operators that were to be landed in Finland as German agents. He was interned by the Allies and debriefed intensively on his SS experiences until December 1947.

He was flushed in 1951 as a potential candidate for the ZRELOPE program in view of his intelligence and particularly W/T training background. However, there was also a priority need for a chief W/T instructor for the paramilitary apparatus of the Association of German Youth (Bund Deutscher Jugend)

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(BDJ) and it was decided to utilize him there. He proceeded to organize a network of about two dozen W/T trainees during 1952. Only four of these were fully trained by the time of the public scandal involving the BDJ so-called "murder list" of persons to be liquidated in the event of World War III. This development forced reconsideration of the entire BDJ program and a subsequent decision to phase out all components, including the W/T network. Bross' background with the SS, of course, would have been an additional proof to support the opposition's arguments that the BDJ was fascist and reactionary. Another incident that weighed against continuing the Bross operation was his unwitting involvement in reports fabricated by a man named Hans Karl Schopf. Schopf was peddling fake reports to CIA and to other agencies when he learned of the existence of Bross, somewhat distortedly portrayed as an American agent in the Soviet Zone. Schopf enlarged upon this to portray Bross as a key Communist courier for a Soviet-directed sabotage group in the West. A follow-up investigation exposed Schopf as a fraud, but also identified Bross as a CIA agent

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to a number of intelligence services.

Bross was terminated amicably in January 1953 as part of the liquidation of the BDJ. A loose contact was maintained to monitor his attitude until April 1953, when he failed to show. Cross tracing showed that he was recruited about that time by the U.S. Air Force to form a border-crossing net into Finland. The operation was compromised and Bross was dropped on 10 August 1954. Bross was last reported in 1961 as offering to run nets in Finland and Poland from Austria.

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